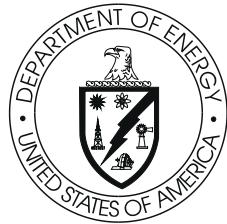
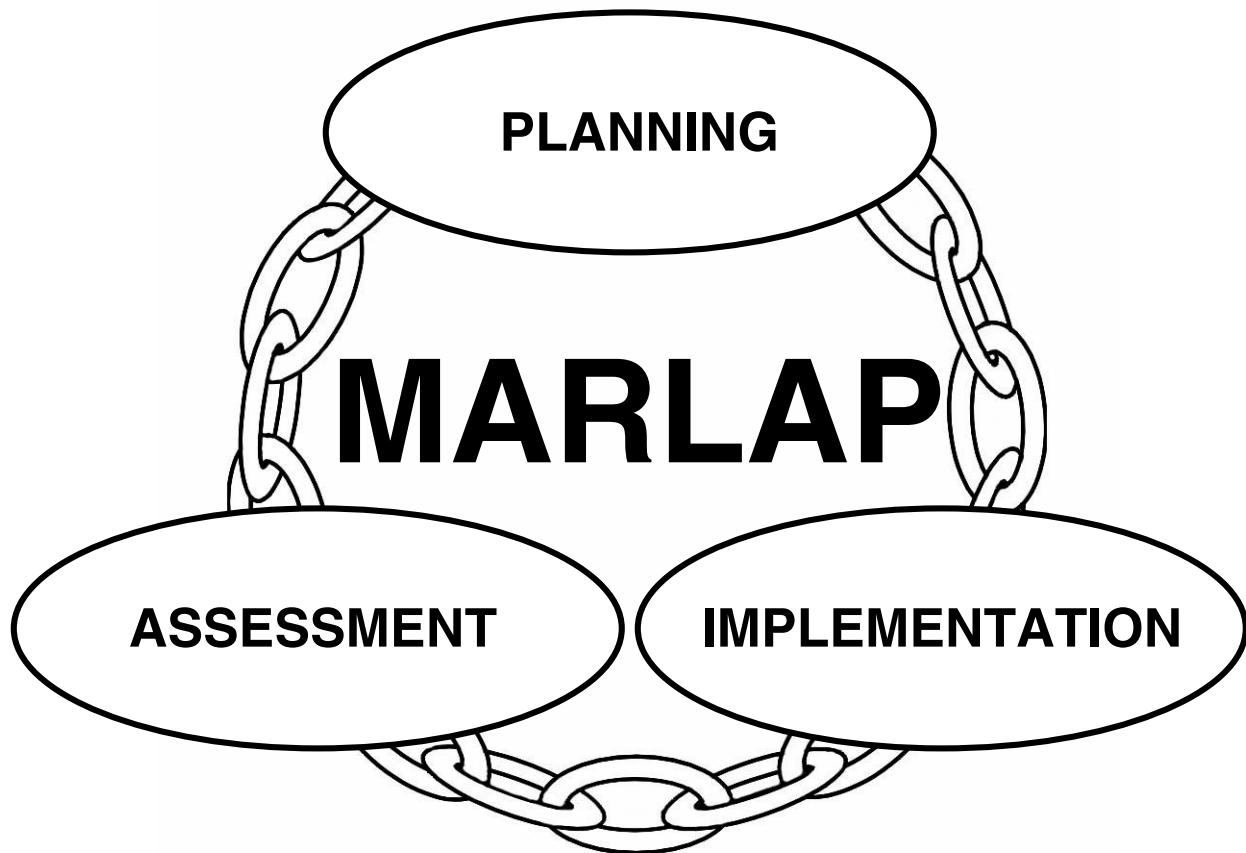


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Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols Manual



Draft for Public Comment

August 2001

ABSTRACT

The Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols (MARLAP) manual provides guidance for the planning, implementation, and assessment of projects that require the laboratory analysis of radionuclides. MARLAP's basic goal is to provide guidance and a framework for project planners, managers, and laboratory personnel to ensure that radioanalytical laboratory data will meet a project's or program's data requirements. To attain this goal, the manual is intended to provide the guidance necessary for national consistency in the form of a performance-based approach for meeting a project's data requirements. The guidance in MARLAP is designed to help ensure the generation of radioanalytical data of known quality, appropriate for its intended use.

MARLAP was developed by a workgroup that included representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Defense (DOD), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). State participation in the development of the manual involved contributions from representatives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the State of California. Contractors to EPA, DOE, and NRC, and members of the public, have been present during the open meetings of the MARLAP workgroup.

Examples of data collection activities that MARLAP supports include site characterization, site cleanup and compliance demonstration, decommissioning of nuclear facilities, remedial and removal actions, effluent monitoring of licensed facilities, environmental site monitoring, background studies, and waste management activities.

NOTICE

This draft manual being released for simultaneous public and peer review, and technical comments are solicited as described below. MARLAP has not been approved for use in part or in whole and should not be used, cited, or quoted except for the purposes of providing comments as requested by the agencies participating in its development.

MARLAP was developed by a workgroup that included representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Defense (DOD), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). State participation in the development of the manual involved contributions from representatives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the State of California. Contractors to EPA, DOE, and NRC, and members of the public, have been present during the open meetings of the MARLAP workgroup.

Although Federal Government personnel are involved in the preparation of this document, the draft manual does not yet represent the official position of any participating agency. This review is a necessary step in the development of a multi-agency consensus manual. References within this manual to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement or recommendation by the United States Government.

Members of the public are invited and encouraged to submit comments to the following website <http://www.eml.doe.gov/marlap/>. Comments may also be submitted to *either*:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ATTN: Air and Radiation Docket, Mail Stop 6102
Docket Number A-2001-16, Room M1500
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

or

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Mail Stop T6D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

All comments received will be reviewed by the entire MARLAP workgroup. Comments received by the date published in the *Federal Register Notice* announcing the availability of the document for public review will be considered. Comments received after that date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but no assurance can be given for consideration of late comments.

Copies of the draft MARLAP manual and all comments received may be examined or copied for a fee at the EPA Docket Room M1500, Docket Number A-2001-16, First Floor Waterside Mall, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; and the NRC Public Document Room, at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Public Document Room, Washington, DC 20555. The document is also available through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). The NTIS document number is PB2001-106745, and the NTIS Sales Desk can be reached between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday at 1-800-553-6847; TDD (hearing impaired only) at (703) 487-4639.

In addition to providing comments on individual chapters and appendices, reviewers are also requested to address the following questions while reviewing the draft manual:

- (1) Is the performance-based approach used in MARLAP for the planning, implementation, and assessment phases of projects technically sound, and is the approach reasonable in terms of ease of implementation by project managers and laboratories? Does the approach effectively link the three phases of a project, and is the guidance on quality control appropriate and supportive of a performance-based approach?
- (2) Is the guidance on laboratory operations in Part II (Chapters 10-20) technically accurate and useful?
- (3) Are the concepts covered under measurement statistics—specifically measurement uncertainty, detection and quantification capability—presented accurately and appropriately?
- (4) Is the information understandable and presented in logical sequence? How can the presentation of material be modified to improve the manual?
- (5) Does MARLAP provide benefits that are not currently available through other approaches? What are the costs associated with implementing the guidance in MARLAP in comparison with currently available alternatives?

Commentors are encouraged to use the website, <http://www.eml.doe.gov/marlap>, for their review. The website has detailed instructions on how to submit comments and has several

Notice

features that should aid the review process. Commentors also may submit written comments to either of the addresses listed on page IV of this Notice using the same general approach described in the MARLAP website. Comments should be accompanied by supporting details, rationale, or data. To ensure efficient and complete comment resolution, commentors are requested to reference the *page number* and the *line number* to which the comment refers. Comments corresponding to an entire chapter, section, or table should be referenced to the line number for the title of the chapter (always line number 1), section, or table. Comments on footnotes should be referenced to the line in the text where the footnote appears (footnotes do not have line numbers). Comments on figures should be referenced to the page on which the figure appears (figures do not have line numbers) and figure number. Comments on the entire manual should be referenced to the title page.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The origin of the Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols (MARLAP) manual can be traced to the recognition by a number of agencies for the need to have a nationally consistent approach to producing radioanalytical data that meet a program's or project's needs. A multi-agency workgroup was formed with representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Energy (DOE), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Department of Defense (DOD), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to develop guidance for the planning, implementation, and assessment of projects that require the laboratory analysis of radionuclides. Representatives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the State of California also contributed to the development of the manual.

Of particular importance to the workgroup is that the guidance needs to be both scientifically rigorous and flexible enough to be applied to a diversity of projects and programs. The draft MARLAP manual is the result of a cooperative effort with these goals in mind.

MARLAP would not have been possible without the workgroup members who contributed their time, talent, and efforts to develop this guidance document:

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Note: Bracketed numbers following each definition represent the first chapter in which the acronym appears.

- ADC analog to digital convertor [18]
AEA Atomic Energy Act [20]
AL action level [C]
ANSI American National Standards Institute [1]
AOAC Association of Official Analytical Chemists [3]
APHA American Public Health Association [6]
APS analytical protocol specification [1]
ARARs applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (CERCLA/Superfund) [D]
ASL analytical support laboratory [15]
ASQC American Society for Quality Control [2]
ASTM American Society for Testing and Materials [1]
ATD alpha track detector [10]

BOA basic ordering agreement [4]

CAA Clean Air Act [20]
CBD *Commerce Business Daily* [E]
CC charcoal canisters [10]
CEDE committed effective dose equivalent [2]
CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (Superfund) [2]
CFM cubic feet per minute [16]
CFR *Code of Federal Regulations* [20]
CL central line (of a control chart) [15]
CMPO [octyl(phenyl)]-N,N-diisobutylcarbonylmethylphosphine oxide [14]
CMST Characterization, Monitoring, and Sensor Technology Program (DOE) [A]
COC chain of custody [2]
COR contracting officer's representative [5]
cpm counts per minute [12]
cps counts per second [15]
CRM continuous radon monitor [10]
CRM certified reference material [18]
CWA Clean Water Act [20]
CWLM continuous working level monitor [10]

Acronyms and Abbreviations

DAAP	diamylamylphosphonate [14]
DCGL	derived concentration guideline level [2]
DIN	di-isopropylnaphthalene [16]
DL	discrimination limit [C]
DoD	U.S. Department of Defense [1]
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy [1]
DOELAP	DOE Lab Accreditation Program [18]
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation [5]
DPM	disintegrations per minute [12]
DPPP	dipentylpentylphosphonate [14]
DQA	data quality assessment [1]
DQI	data quality indicators [3]
DQO	data quality objective [1]
DTPA	diethylene triamine penta-acetic acid [10]
DVB	divinylbenzene [14]
EDD	electronic data deliverables [17]
EDTA	ethylene diamine tetra acetic acid [10]
EGTA	ethyleneglycol bis(2-aminoethyl ether)-tetraacetate [14]
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [1]
ERPRIMS . . .	Environmental Resources Program Management System (U.S. Air Force) [17]
ESC	expedited site characterization [A]
eV	electron volts [15]
FAR	<i>Federal Acquisition Regulations</i> [E]
FDA	U.S. Food and Drug Administration [1]
FWHM	full width of a peak at half maximum [8]
FWTM	full width of a peak at tenth maximum [18]
GC	gas chromatography [14]
GLPC	gas-liquid phase chromatography [14]
GM	Geiger-Mueller detector [11]
GUM	<i>Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement</i> [1]
HDBP	dibutylphosphoric acid [14]
HDEHP	bis(2-ethylhexyl) phosphoric acid [16]
HDEHP	diethylhexylphosphoric acid [14]

- HDPE high density polyethylene [10]
HPGe high-purity germanium [semiconductor] [15]
HPLC high-pressure liquid chromatography; high-performance liquid chromatography [14]
HTRW hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste [10]
- ICP-MS inductively coupled plasma-mass spectroscopy [14]
IPPD integrated product and process development [A]
ISO International Organization for Standardization [1]
IUPAC International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry [1]
- LAN local area network [17]
LBGR lower boundary of the gray region [B]
LCL lower control limit [18]
LCS laboratory control samples [3]
LDPE low density polyethylene [10]
LEGe low energy germanium [15]
LIMS Laboratory Information Management System [17]
LLD lower limit of detection [19]
LLRW low-level radioactive waste [20]
LLRWPA Low Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act [20]
LOMI low oxidation-state transition-metal ion [10]
LPC liquid partition chromatography; liquid-phase chromatography [14]
LS liquid scintillation [15]
LSC liquid scintillation counting [15]
LWL lower warning limit [18]
- MAPEP Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program [DOE] [5]
MARSSIM ... Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual [1]
MCA multichannel analyzer [15]
MDA minimum detection analysis [15]; minimum detectable amount [7]
MDC minimum detectable concentration [3]
MDL method detection limit [19]
MDC minimum detectable concentration [2]
MIBK methyl isobutyl ketone [14]
MQC minimum quantifiable concentration [3]
MQO measurement quality objective [1]

Acronyms and Abbreviations

- MS matrix spike [8]
MSD matrix spike duplicate [8]
MVRM method validation reference material [5]
- NELAC National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference [5]
NESHAP National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants [12]
NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology [1]
NRC U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission [1]
NRIP NIST Radiochemistry Intercomparison Program [18]
NTA or NTTA nitrilotriacetate [14]
NTU nephelometric turbidity units [10]
NVLAP National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NIST) [5]
- OA observational approach [A]
OFHC oxygen-free high-conductivity [15]
OFPP Office of Federal Procurement Policy [E]
- PARCC precision, accuracy, representativeness, completeness, and comparability [3]
PCB polychlorinated biphenyl [20]
PDF probability density function [19]
PE performance evaluation [5]
PFA perfluoroalcoholixTM [13]
PIC pressurized ionization chamber [15]
PT performance testing [5]
PTFE polytetrafluoroethylene [12]
PUREX plutonium uranium reduction extraction [14]
PVC polyvinyl chloride [10]
- QA quality assurance [2]
QAP Quality Assessment Program (DOE) [5]
QAPP quality assurance project plan [1]
QC quality control [1]
- RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act [15]
REE rare earth elements [13]
REGe reverse-electrode germanium [semiconductor] [15]
RFP request for proposals [5]

Acronyms and Abbreviations

RFQ request for quotations [E]
RMDC required minimum detectable concentration [8]
ROI regions of interest [17]
RPD relative percent difference [7]
RPM Remedial Project Manager [2]
RSD relative standard deviation [19]
RSO Radiation Safety Officer [11]

SA spike activity [7]
SAFER streamlined approach for environmental restoration (DOE) [2]
SAM Site Assessment Manager [2]
SAP sampling and analysis plan [1]
SI international system of units [3]
SMO sample management office [2]
SOP standard operating procedure [4]
SOW Statement of Work [1]
SQC statistical quality control [15]
SR unspiked sample result [7]
SRM standard reference material [18]
SSR spiked sample result [7]

TAT turnaround time [7]
TBP tributyl phosphate [14]
TC to contain [glassware] [18]
TCLP toxicity characteristic leaching procedure [13]
TD to deliver [glassware] [18]
TEC technical evaluation committee [5]
TEDE total effective dose equivalent [2]
TES technical evaluation sheet (USGS) [5]
TFM tetrafluorometoxilTM [13]
TIOA tri-iso-octylamine [14]
TLD thermoluminescent dosimeter [10]
TOPO trioctylphosphinic oxide [14]
TPO Technical Project Officer [2]
TPP technical project planning [2]
TPU total propagated uncertainty [19]
TQM Total Quality Management [A]

Acronyms and Abbreviations

TRUEX trans uranium extraction [14]
TSCA Toxic Substances Control Act [20]
TSDF treatment, storage, or disposal facility [20]
TTA thenoyltrifluoroacetone [14]

UBGR upper bound of the gray region [7]
UCL upper control limit [18]
USGS United States Geological Survey [1]
UWL upper warning limit [18]

V volts [15]

WCP waste certification plan [20]

XtGe extended-range germanium [semiconductor] [15]